

North Berwick Vic.,
McIntire Garrison House at Scotland.
York, Maine
County

HABS MAINE-9

HABS
ME.

16-BERN.V

1-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

District of Maine

Historic American Buildings Survey
Josiah T. Tubby, District Officer
537 Congress Street, Portland, Maine

"McINTIRE GARRISON HOUSE"HABS
ME(Scotland), York, York County, Maine
North Berwick vicinity

16 BERN.V

OwnersJohn McIntire
Alice McIntireDate of Erection

1660-1692

Builder

Alexander Maxwell(Probable)

Present Condition

The east wall of the building has been shingled. Front and rear walls and west end wall are clapboarded. The roof has been re-shingled and the chimney rebuilt. Windows have been enlarged since originally constructed. Doors have been replaced. Formerly, an extension at the west end of the building was used as a kitchen. The extension was two steps below the general first floor level. In this kitchen was a large fireplace with ovens for cooking. This wing, however, was built approximately one hundred years later than the main building. It was torn down about 1908. The garrison was used as a dwelling house by the McIntire family until about fifty years ago. Information about the garrison was given orally by John McIntire.

Description

A two story frame building with gable roof and central chimney. The second story projects out beyond the lower all around approximately fourteen inches. Foundation is of stone. Floors pine. Inside stairs to the cellar are stone. Wall construction is of oak and pine timbers eight inches thick, squared and dovetailed with sloping surfaces in the joints to shed water. These walls are at present clapboarded and shingled but the original building was without exterior finish. The interior walls and ceilings of the garrison are plastered with "clam shell mortar". There are four low posted rooms, two on each floor, all with fireplaces. Fireplaces have been rebuilt.

Other Existing Records

"Maine Forts" by Henry E. Dunnack. "Old Colonial Houses in Maine", by Emma Huntington Nason. "Pencil Points", June 1933, page 42 (photograph and text by Frank Chouteau Brown). "History of York, Maine" by Charles Edward Banks, Published 1931-Vol. 1 page 209,- Vol. 2 pages 223, 224, 225.

Additional Data

In spite of records referred to in Banks "History of York", the owners of the building, John and Alice McIntire believe the McIntire Garrison house was built by their ancestor, Micum McIntire in 1640-45. This is doubtful.

Malcom (or "Micum") McIntire is believed to have been one of the prisoners exiled from Scotland by Cromwell as was also Alexander Maxwell. It is thought they were sent to this country about 1649 and McIntire was taken to Dover, New Hampshire where he served his time as a slave for several years, afterward living there, being taxed there in 1664 as "Micome the Scotchman". He left Dover and came to Kittery where he had a grant of land. In 1670 he came to York and settled on land adjoining Alexander Maxwell.

Alexander Maxwell, said to be the first of the Scots to settle in York, came there in 1657. Maxwell died between May 1707 and October of that year and when his will was probated (Maine Wills 150) it appears that he had sold part of his homestead June 27, 1707 to John McIntire, (probably a son of Micum), being land adjoining McIntire's home lot, bounded by "the orchard or garden of sd Maxwell where the Garrison now stands" (Deeds VII, 87). Later the garrison was referred to as "Scotland Garrison", and much later, the "McIntire Garrison". The building was standing in 1692 but how much earlier it was built, it is difficult to say.

In 1711, the following survey ordered by Governor Joseph Dudley is recorded in the History of York, Maine. Under this survey, twenty garrisons are listed in and around York. Scotland Garrison is listed as number fourteen.

"By order of his Excellency, Governor Joseph Dudley, a committee was directed to make a survey of all the frontier garrison houses in Maine in 1711 and they reported the following^w operation in York with the assignment of persons to repair to each in time of danger, or alarm.

No.	Yorke Garrison	Families	Men Inhab.	Souldiers	Souls	
14	Scotland	7	7	1	35	1

On the night of February 5, 1692, when the French and Indians made a surprise attack on York and burned the village, it is said that nearly every dwelling in this section except the McIntire Garrison was destroyed. The McIntire Garrison is the oldest blockhouse now in existence in the State of Maine.

Eleanor C. Jannell

Approved:

Joshua T. Tubby
June 23, 1937